

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1023

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008

TARGET FIXED AND ACHIEVED DURING TENTH PLAN

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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the targets fixed and achieved in regard to eradication of illiteracy, hunger, poverty, environment ecology and health care are far behind during the Tenth Plan;
- (b) if so, whether it will take more time to achieve the targets fixed in this regard as reported in the Hindi daily the Hindustan dated December 23, 2007;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has made any assessment to find out the factors responsible for lagging behind the schedule fixed for eradication of the same;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (c): The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-03 to 2006-07) had set monitorable targets for reducing illiteracy and poverty and for improving health care and environmental quality. For literacy, the Plan aimed at increasing the literacy rate to 75 per cent within the Plan period. As per the National Sample Survey data of the 62nd Round, (Report No. 522(62/10/1) literacy rate among the persons of 7 years and above was 68.3% in 2005-06. No specific monitorable target for eradication of hunger was fixed in the Tenth Plan. As per the latest large sample survey of household consumer expenditure of the 61st Round (July 2004 to June 2005) of the NSS, 2.4 per cent of the rural households and 0.5 percent of the urban households reported inadequacy of food for some months of the year in 2004-05. For poverty, the Tenth Plan aimed at reduction of the poverty ratio (i.e., the number of poor as percentage of total population) by 5 percentage points by 2007. Comparing the two latest estimate of the incidence of poverty available for the years 1993-94 and 2004-05, estimated from the large sample survey data on household consumer expenditure conducted by the NSSO in its 50th (July 1993-June 1994) and 61st Round (July 2004-June 2005), the poverty ratio is estimated to decline by 8.5 percentage points during this period. For environment and ecology, the Tenth Plan aimed at increasing the forest and tree cover to 25 per cent by 2007. The existing information on forest/tree cover based on the satellite data of 2002 indicates a green cover of 23.68%. There has been a net improvement of 0.65% between 2000 and 2002. Regarding health the Plan aimed at reducing infant mortality rate (IMR) to 45 per 1000 live births by 2007 and maternal mortality ratio (MMR) to 2 per 1000 live births by 2007. The IMR was 57 per 1000 live births in 2006 and the MMR was 3 per 1000 live births in 2001-2003. Thus it would appear that in some cases the realizations are likely to meet the Tenth Plan targets while in some others the realizations remained less than the targets. The Hindustan also mentioned other factors such as out of school children, drinking water supply and sanitation facilities. For these, separate programmes such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission and Total Sanitation Campaign are in operation.

(d) & (e): Most of these programmes in the area of education, health and anti-poverty programme have monitoring and evaluation mechanisms at different levels of Central and State Governments as part of the programme guidelines. The Planning Commission reviews the implementation of the Plan schemes during the Annual Plan discussions with the State Governments / Union Territories. These are factored into the Eleventh Plan, which has set monitorable targets for some of these variables for the Plan period (2007-2012). For literacy, the literacy rate (for persons of age 7 years or more) to 85%. For poverty, to reduce the headcount ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points. For environment and ecology, :

- (i) to increase forest and tree cover by 5 percentage points,
 - (ii) Air quality in all major cities to attain WHO standards by 2011-12.
 - (iii) Treat all urban waste water by 2011-12 to clean river waters.
 - (iv) Increase energy efficiency by 20 percent by 2016-17.
- For health care,

(i) infant mortality rate (IMR) to reduce to 28 and maternal mortality ratio (MMR) to 1 per 1000 live births.

(ii) to reduce malnutrition among children of age group 0-3 to half its present level.

(iii) to reduce anemia among women and girls by 50% by the end of the Eleventh Plan.

(f): The Eleventh Five Year Plan has set the growth target for the economy at 9% per year for the plan period (2007-12) and aims at putting the economy on a sustainable growth trajectory with a growth of approximately 10% by the end of its period. In addition to the benefits of increase in income arising from the general growth process, the Government is implementing a number of programmes in order to eradicate illiteracy and poverty and promote environmental sustainability and better health. The major schemes and programmes in this regard include Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Indira Awaas Yojana, National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, Swarn Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana, Targeted Public Distribution System and Antyodaya Anna Yojana. A number of programmes/schemes have been launched by different Central Ministries/Departments for Social Sector development. Some of these are: National Rural Health Mission, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid-Day Meals Programme), Integrated Child Development Services, Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission, Bharat Nirman, etc. The vision of the Eleventh Plan includes a clear commitment to pursue a development process, which is environmentally sustainable.